



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Alaska District

Public Notice of Application for Permit

Regulatory Division (1145)
CEPOA-RD
Post Office Box 6898
Elmendorf AFB, Alaska 99506-0898

PUBLIC NOTICE DATE:	28 March 2007
EXPIRATION DATE:	27 April 2007
REFERENCE NUMBER:	POA-2005-1715-4
WATERWAY:	Kuskokwim Bay

Interested parties are hereby notified that a Department of the Army permit application has been received for work in waters of the United States as described below and shown on the enclosed project drawings.

APPLICANT: Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, Post Office Box 196900, Anchorage, Alaska 99519-6900.

LOCATION: The proposed project is located at the Kongiganak Airport, within sections 28, 32, and 33, T. 2 S., R. 79 W., Seward Meridian, within USGS Quad Kuskokwim Bay D-3; Latitude 59.880° N., Longitude 163.054° W.; in Kongiganak, Alaska.

SPECIAL AREA DESIGNATION: The project is located near the Yukon-Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose is "to correct deficiencies of the existing airport and bring the airport up to current State and FAA Standards for a Community Class Airport."

PROPOSED WORK:

Placement of up to 215,000 cubic yards (cy) of fill material (local silt and surface course to be barged in) in 26.7 acres of tundra wetlands for the following:

- Lengthen the runway from 1,885 feet to 2,400 feet;
- Widen the runway from 35 feet to 75 feet;
- Enlarge the existing apron area from 8,000 square feet (sf) to 37,000 sf;
- Lengthen the Runway Safety Area (RSA) from 2,175 feet to 2,880 feet;
- Widen the RSA from 35 feet to 120 feet;
- Construct a new 262.5-foot long by 50-foot wide taxiway with a 79-foot wide safety area;
- Construct a new 200-foot by 300-foot parking apron (initially this pad would be 200-foot by 185-foot, used as a staging area), a 100-foot by 200-foot aviation support area, and a 100-foot by 100-foot segmented circle/lighted wind cone;

- Construct a 30-foot by 75-foot PAPI pad; a 35-foot by 80-foot REIL pad; and a 30-foot by 60-foot AWOS pad;
- Construct a 130-foot (top width) by 225-foot (top width) by 4-foot deep material stockpile and barge landing site: total footprint of 0.7 acre;
- Construct a 760-foot by 22-foot (top width) by 2-foot haul road: total footprint of 0.5 acre;
- Resurface the runway, taxiway, parking apron and aviation support area with crushed aggregate surface course;
- Construct a 1,600-foot long power line extension;
- Install lighting, wind cone, rotating beacon, and approach and navigational aids;
- Construct a 10-foot wide by 1,500-foot long boardwalk to access the new apron.

The following additional work would occur for Material Site (MS) development:

- Place approximately 4,563 cy of fill material in 1.4 acre of wetlands to construct a 2,200-foot long by 28-foot wide by 2-foot high access road to MS No. 1.
- Place approximately 16,302 cy of fill material in 5.1 acre of wetlands to construct a 7,860-foot long by 28-foot wide by 2-foot high access road to MS No. 2.
- Stockpile an unquantified amount of overburden material, and conduct mechanized landclearing and reclamation activities in up to 140 acres of wetlands for material site operations.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: This permit, if issued, would only authorize the work described above for Phases 1-2. The expected lapse time between Phases 1 and 2 is 5-7 years to allow the silty, moisture-laden embankment time to settle. ADOT&PF would submit a future permit application for Phases 3-4, which would include lengthening the runway to 3,300 feet, with a RSA length of 3,780 feet.

Construction would occur during the winter months, and snow/ice roads are planned for MS access. However, if there is insufficient snowfall and/or temperatures are too warm, fill would be placed as described above to construct MS access roads. Material site reclamation would involve stockpiling overburden material at the edges of the material sites, grading and contouring the material sites, and then spreading the overburden back over the reclaimed areas to promote natural plant growth.

MITIGATION: If a permit is issued, the project would be subject to the January 10, 2003, Memorandum of Agreement among the Federal Aviation Administration, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Alaska Department of Fish and Game, regarding impacts to wetlands and other aquatic resources, mitigation and airport improvement projects in Alaska.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION: A permit for the described work will not be issued until a certification or waiver of certification, as required under Section 401 of the Clean Water Act (Public Law 95-217), has been received from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation.

COASTAL ZONE MANAGEMENT ACT CERTIFICATION: Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone, Management Act of 1972, as amended by 16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3), requires the applicant to certify the described activity affecting land or water uses in the Coastal Zone complies with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. A permit will not be issued until the Office of Project Management and Permitting, Department of Natural Resources has concurred with the applicant's certification.

CULTURAL RESOURCES: The latest published version of the Alaska Heritage Resources Survey (AHRS) has been consulted for the presence or absence of historic properties, including those listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of

Historic Places. There are no listed or eligible properties in the vicinity of the worksite. Consultation of the AHRS constitutes the extent of cultural resource investigations by the District Commander at this time, and he is otherwise unaware of the presence of such resources. This application is being coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). Any comments SHPO may have concerning presently unknown archeological or historic data that may be lost or destroyed by work under the requested permit will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ENDANGERED SPECIES: The project area is within the known or historic range of the threatened spectacled and Steller's eiders.

Preliminarily, the described activity is not likely to adversely affect threatened or endangered species, or modify their designated critical habitat, under the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (87 Stat. 844). This application is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Any comments they may have concerning endangered or threatened wildlife or plants or their critical habitat will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT: The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the NMFS on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH).

Preliminarily, the described activity will not affect EFH in the project area. This Public Notice initiates EFH consultation with the NMFS. Any comments or recommendations they may have concerning EFH will be considered in our final assessment of the described work.

TRIBAL CONSULTATION: The Alaska District fully supports tribal self-governance and government-to-government relations between Federally recognized Tribes and the Federal government. Tribes with protected rights or resources that could be significantly affected by a proposed Federal action (e.g., a permit decision) have the right to consult with the Alaska District on a government-to-government basis. Views of each Tribe regarding protected rights and resources will be accorded due consideration in this process. This Public Notice serves as notification to the Tribes within the area potentially affected by the proposed work and invites their participation in the Federal decision-making process regarding the protected Tribal right or resource. Consultation may be initiated by the affected Tribe upon written request to the District Commander during the public comment period.

PUBLIC HEARING: Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, reasons for holding a public hearing.

EVALUATION: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. Evaluation of the probable impacts, which the proposed activity may have on the public interest, requires a careful weighing of all the factors that become relevant in each particular case. The benefits, which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal, must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. The outcome of the general balancing process would determine whether to authorize a proposal, and if so, the conditions under which it will be allowed to occur. The decision should reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. All factors, which may be relevant to the proposal, must be considered including the cumulative effects thereof. Among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards,

floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. For activities involving 404 discharges, a permit will be denied if the discharge that would be authorized by such permit would not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the preceding sentence and any other applicable guidelines or criteria (see Sections 320.2 and 320.3), a permit will be granted unless the District Commander determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

Comments on the described work, with the reference number, should reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Please contact Ms. Shannon Hansen at (907) 753-2712, toll free from within Alaska at (800) 478-2712, or by email at Shannon.r.hansen@poa02.usace.army.mil if further information is desired concerning this notice.

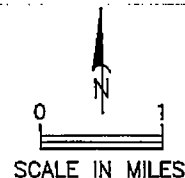
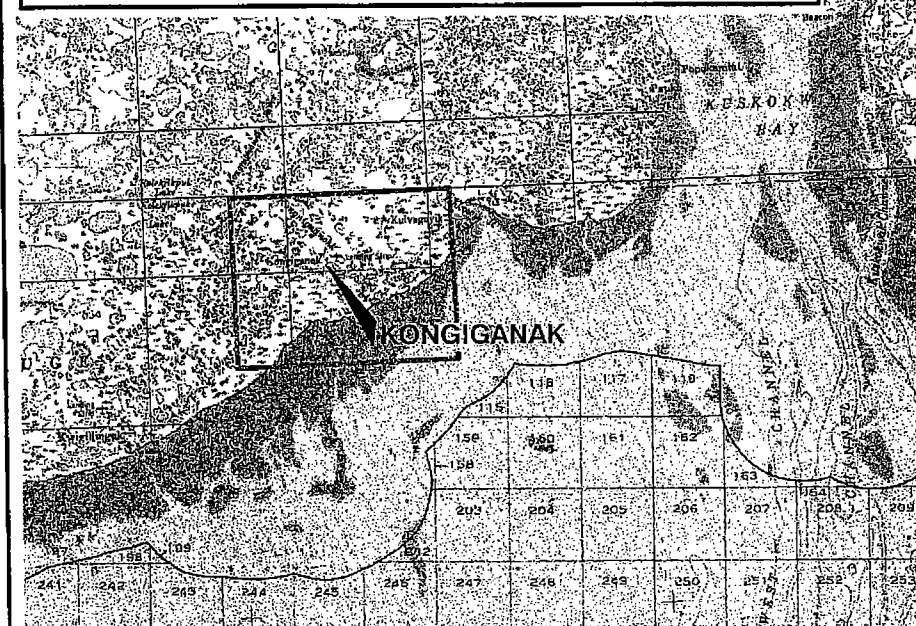
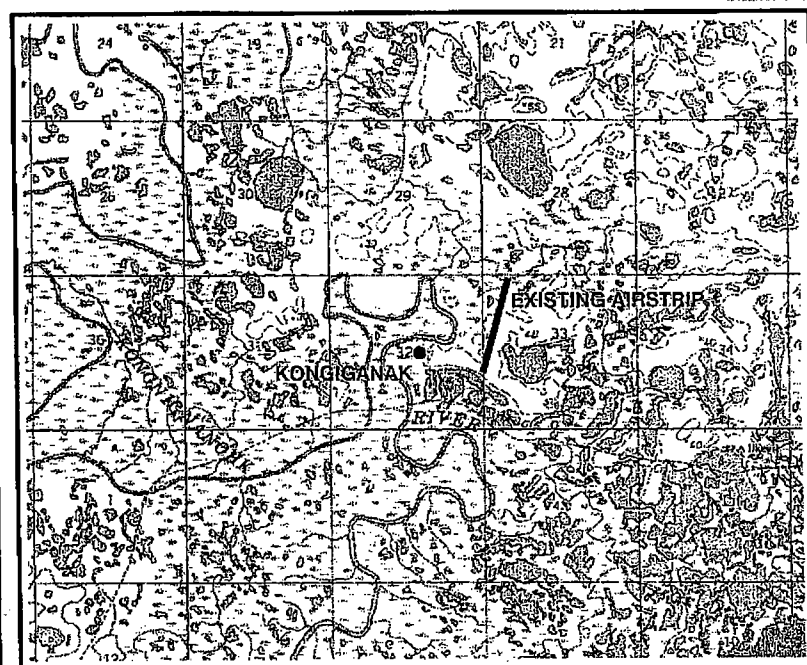
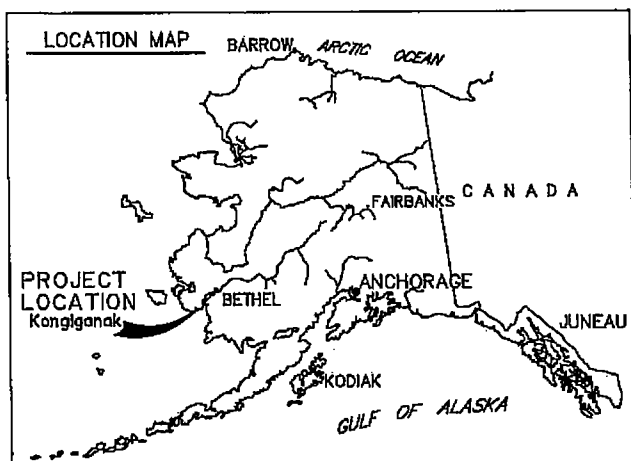
AUTHORITY: This permit will be issued or denied under the following authorities:

(X) Discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the United States - Section 404 Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344). Therefore, our public interest review will consider the guidelines set forth under Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act (40 CFR 230).

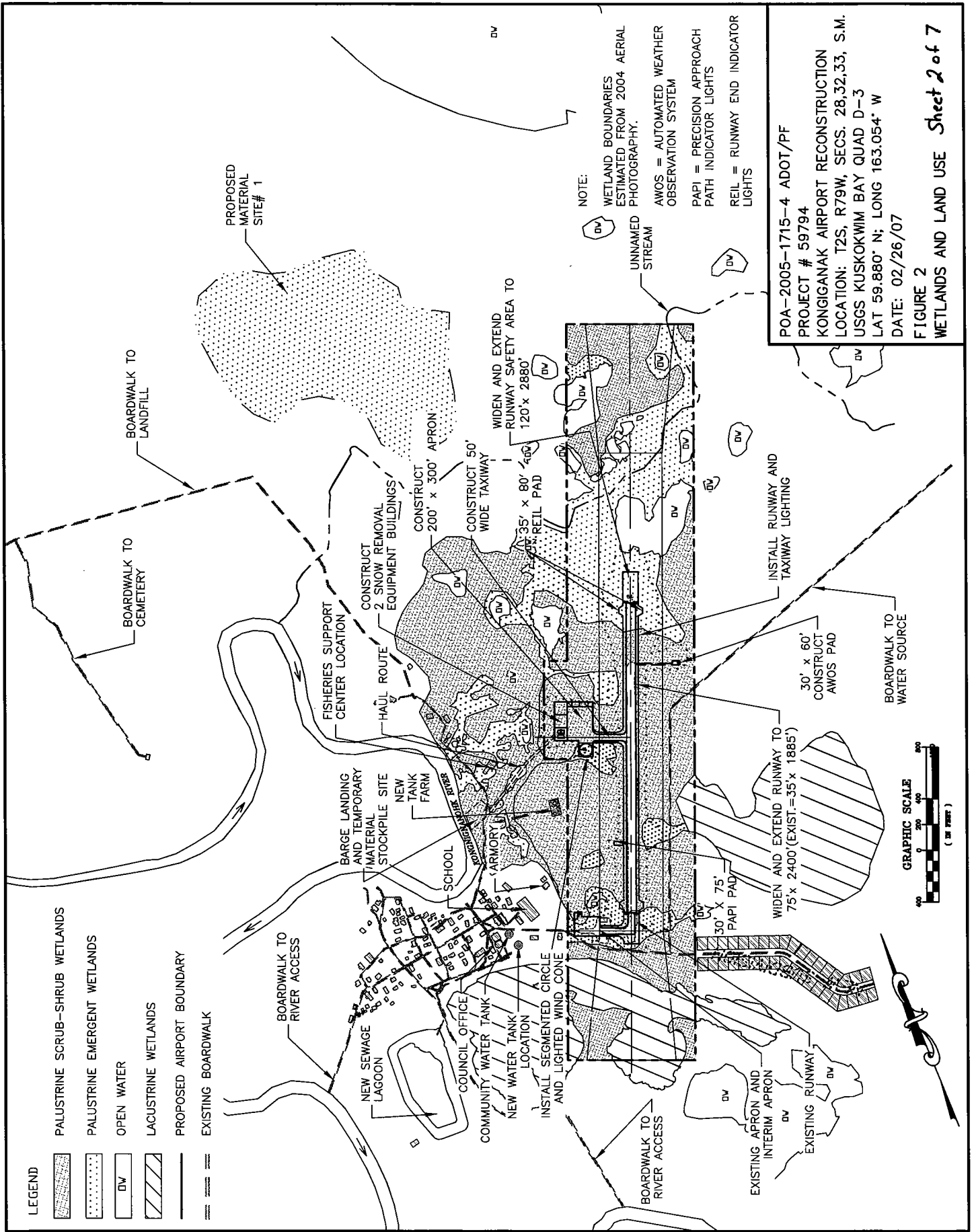
Project drawings, Notice of Application for Certification of Consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program, and Notice of Application for State Water Quality Certification are enclosed with this Public Notice.

District Commander
U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers

Enclosures



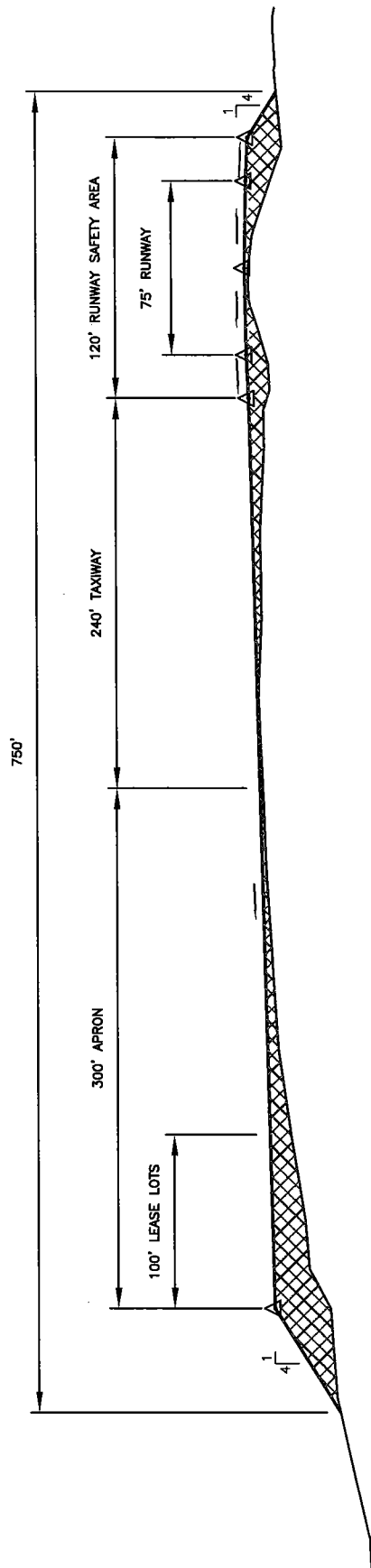
POA-2005-1715-4 ADOT/PF
 PROJECT # 59794
 KONGIGANAK AIRPORT RECONSTRUCTION
 LOCATION: T2S, R79W, SECS.28,32,33, S.M.
 USGS KUSKOKWIM BAY QUAD D-3 LAT
 59.880° N; LONG 163.054° W
 DATE: 02/22/07
 FIGURE 1 LOCATION AND
 VICINITY MAP *Sheet 1 of 7*



LEGEND

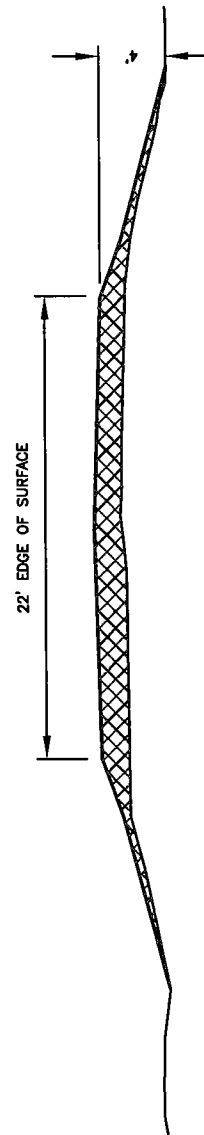


FILL IN WETLANDS



RUNWAY, TAXIWAY, & APRON TYPICAL SECTION

NTS


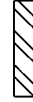


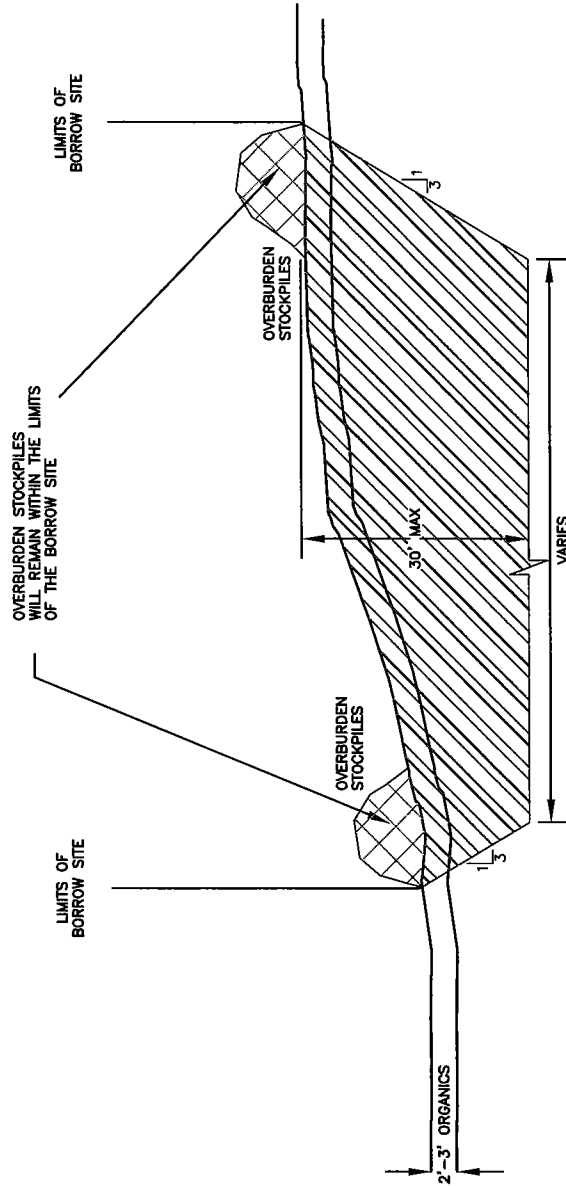
ACCESS ROAD TYPICAL SECTION

NTS

POA-2005-1715-4 ADOT/PF
PROJECT # 59794
KONGIGANAK AIRPORT RECONSTRUCTION
LOCATION: T2S, R79W, SECS. 28,32,33, S.M.
USGS KUSKOKWIM BAY QUAD D-3
LAT 59.880° N; LONG 163.054° W
DATE: 02/26/07
FIGURE 3 **Sheet 3 of 7**
RUNWAY, TAXIWAY, APRON, & ACCESS ROAD
TYPICAL SECTION

LEGEND

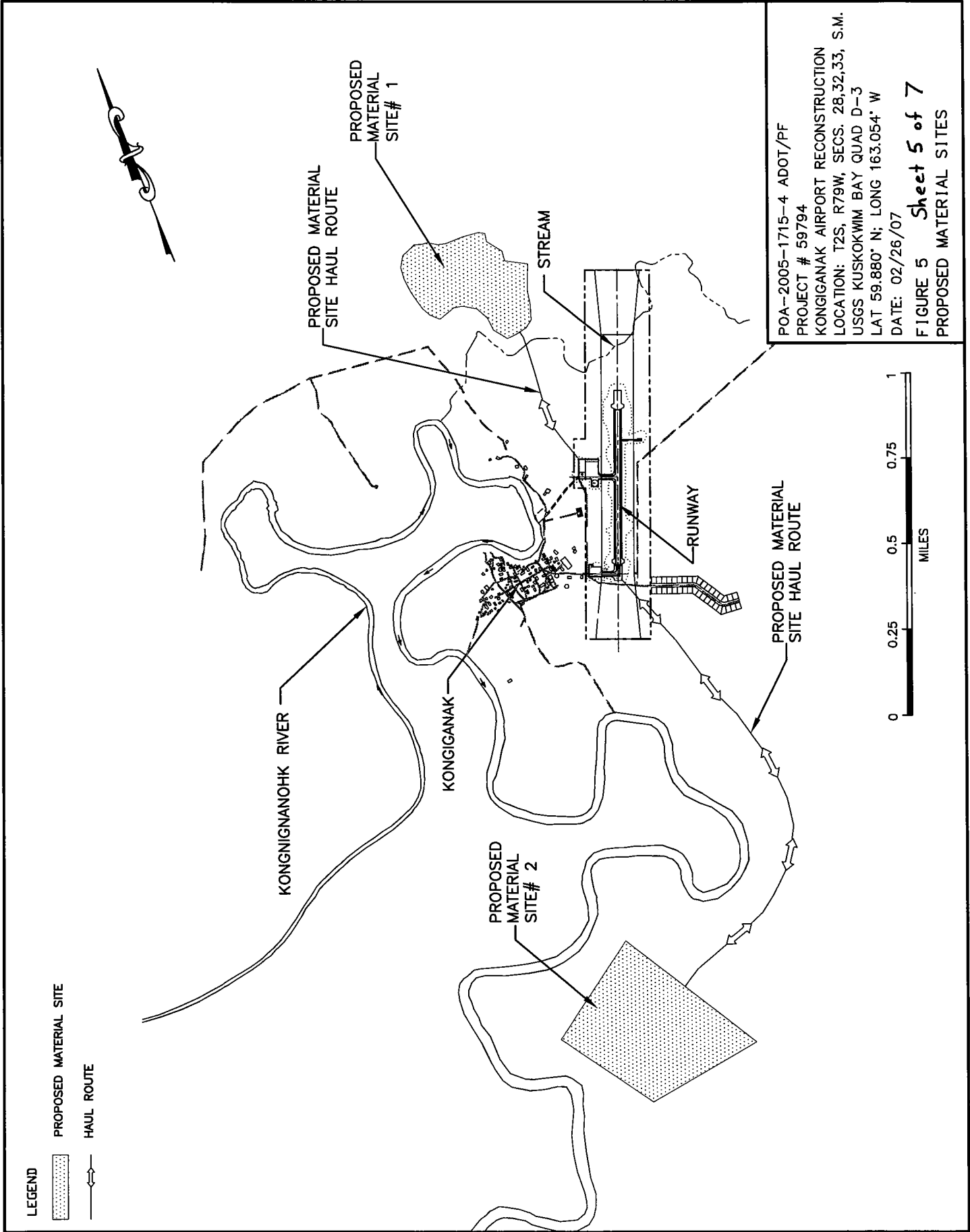
-  FILL IN WETLANDS
 EXCAVATION IN WETLANDS

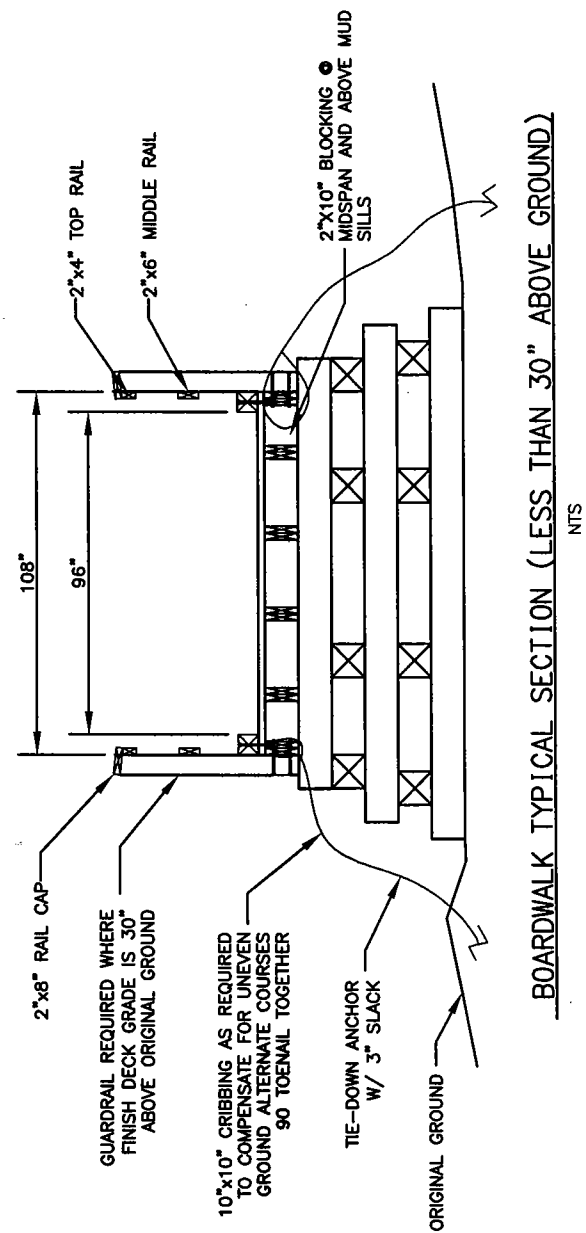
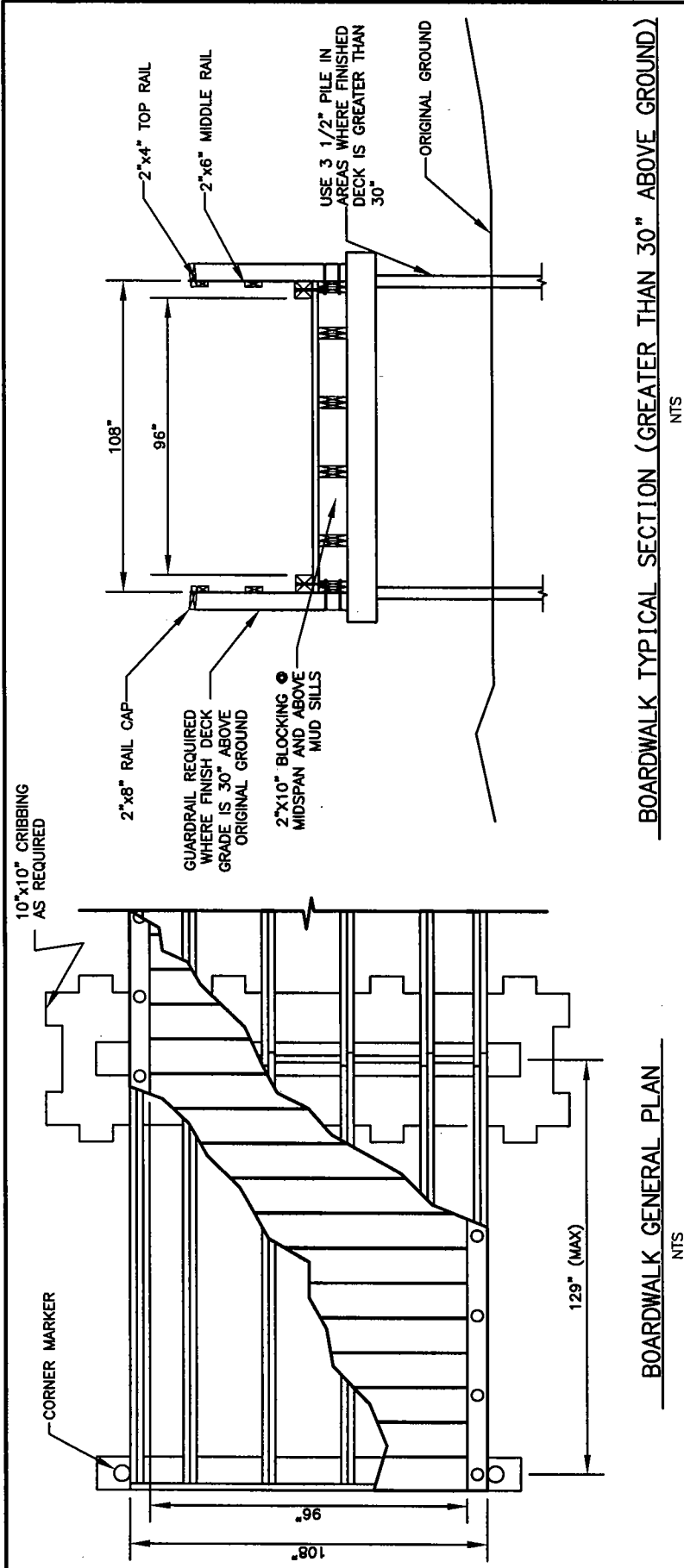


MATERIAL SITE TYPICAL SECTION

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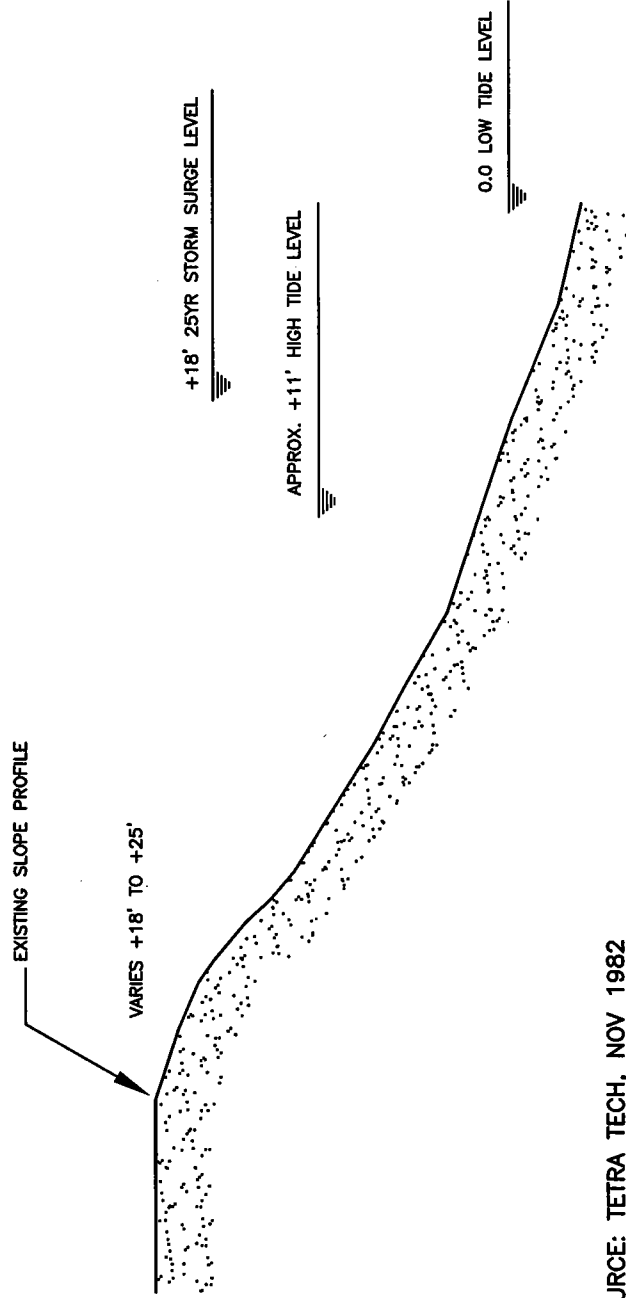
POA-2005-1715-4 ADOT/PF
 PROJECT # 59794
 KONGIGANAK AIRPORT RECONSTRUCTION
 LOCATION: T2S, R79W, SECS. 28,32,33, S.M.
 USGS KUSKOKWIM BAY QUAD D-3
 LAT 59.880° N; LONG 163.054° W
 DATE: 02/26/07
 FIGURE 4 *Sheet 4 of 7*
 MATERIAL SITE TYPICAL SECTION





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FIGURE 6 Sheet 6 of 7
 BOARDWALK TYPICAL SECTION



SOURCE: TETRA TECH, NOV 1982

BARGE LANDING
NTS

POA-2005-1715-4 ADOT/PF
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LAT 59.880° N; LONG 163.054° W
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FIGURE 7 *Sheet 7 of 7*
BARGE LANDING SITE TYPICAL SECTION

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPT. OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
DIVISION OF WATER
401 Certification Program
Non-Point Source Water Pollution Control Program

DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION
WQM/401 CERTIFICATION
555 CORDOVA STREET
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-2617
PHONE: (907) 269-7564/FAX: (907) 334-2415

NOTICE OF APPLICATION
FOR
STATE WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION

Any applicant for a federal license or permit to conduct an activity that might result in a discharge into navigable waters, in accordance with Section 401 of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL95-217), also must apply for and obtain certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation that the discharge will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. By agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of Environmental Conservation, application for a Department of the Army permit to discharge dredged or fill material into navigable waters under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act also may serve as application for State Water Quality Certification.

Notice is hereby given that the application for a Department of the Army Permit described in the Corps of Engineers' Public Notice No. POA-2005-1715-4, Kuskokwim Bay, serves as application for State Water Quality Certification from the Department of Environmental Conservation.

After reviewing the application, the Department may certify there is reasonable assurance the activity, and any discharge that might result, will comply with the Clean Water Act, the Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. The Department also may deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on the project, with respect to Water Quality Certification, may submit written comments to the address above by the expiration date of the Corps of Engineer's Public Notice.

STATE OF ALASKA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING

OFFICE OF PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND PERMITTING
550 WEST 7TH AVENUE, SUITE 705
ANCHORAGE, ALASKA 99501-3559
PHONE: (907) 269-7470/FAX: (907) 269-3981

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATION OF CONSISTENCY WITH THE ALASKA COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Notice is hereby given that a request is being filed with the Office of Project Management and Permitting for a consistency determination, as provided in Section 307(c)(3) of the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, as amended [16 U.S.C. 1456(c)(3)], that the project described in the Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. POA-2005-1715-4, Kuskokwim Bay, will comply with the Alaska Coastal Management Program and that the project will be conducted in a manner consistent with that program.

This project is being reviewed for consistency with the Alaska Coastal Management Program. Written comments about the consistency of the project with the applicable ACMP statewide standards and district policies must be submitted to the Office of Project Management and Permitting (OPMP). For information about this consistency review, contact OPMP at the address or phone number above, or visit the ACMP web site at <http://www.alaskacoast.state.ak.us//Projects/projects.html>.